

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph.

[0026] FIG. 1 further shows an analog signal source 36 and an audio driver 38, whose outputs, carried on an analog transmission line 40, are received by analog sections of any annunciators 22 and/or 32 for which such functions may be required and installed. Even at a low baud rate, the digital transmission line 16 may carry signal components with comparatively high bandwidth. Because the analog transmission line 40 may carry lower bandwidth signals, the controlled impedance desirable to aid digital transmission line 16 performance may be less critical for the analog line [[38]] 40. Shielding 42 that can further enhance digital performance and range may provide significant benefit to the analog line 40, however, especially in an electrically noisy environment, where the shielding 42 may reduce induced noise in the analog circuitry of individual annunciators 22 and/or 32.

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph.

[0028] The ~~Audio driver~~ 36 driver 38 may be incorporated into a package with the RS-485 driver, the latter shown in the exemplary system as an RS-232 to RS-485 converter 14. Similarly, the ~~audio source~~ source 36 can be incorporated into the central control processor 12, for example using a sound amplifying circuit board or circuit function in an off-the-shelf personal computer used as the central control processor. An external source, such as a microphone or radio receiver, or an internal source, such as Internet radio or prerecorded programming material stored in the central control processor, can be the program source for sound to be emitted by selected annunciators 22 and/or 32.

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph.

[0029] Analog audio driver output signal levels of 10, 25, and 70 volts are common in annunciator products. These and other levels can be used in the exemplary system by selecting components compatible with the levels chosen. A 1-volt signal output from the audio ~~source 34~~
source 36 feeding the audio ~~driver 36~~ driver 38 is a typical example.

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph.

[0033] Monitor mode in the preferred embodiment consists principally of a loop in which polling of all annunciators identified as active occurs at a regular rate, such as once every half-minute. In Monitor mode, a task select decision 64 can permit the user to change an event definition 86 or, following completion of that operation, to remain in that activity or change mode 88.